

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property


Historic name Barbeau House  
Other name/site number 137-3090-0006

### 2. Location

Street & number 210 East Washington Avenue ☐ not for publication  
City or town Lenora ☐ vicinity  
State Kansas Code KS County Norton Code 137 Zip code 67645

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination  
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of  
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)



17 May 2004

Signature of certifying official/Title  
Kansas State Historical Society

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional  
Comments.)

Signature of commenting official /Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- ☐ entered in the National Register. \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined eligible for the National \_\_\_\_\_  
Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined not eligible for the \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register  
☐ removed from the National \_\_\_\_\_  
Register  
☐ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Barbeau House  
Name of property

Norton County, Kansas  
County and State

### 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**  
0

### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter Categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: hotel

### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE  
walls WOOD

roof ASPHALT

other BRICK

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)



Name of Property Barbeau House

County and State Norton County, Kansas

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

- ☐ D Property has yielded, or likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

#### ARCHITECTURE

### Period of Significance

1902

### Significant Dates

1902

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

James Bridges

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS): Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ Previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

County and State Norton County, Kansas

Acreage of Property less than one acre

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

☐ See continuation sheet

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

Name/title	Melissa Fisher Isaacs
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Organization Kansas State Historical Society Date 17 May 2004

Street & number    6425 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue                      Telephone    785-272-8681

City or town	Topeka	State	Kansas	Zip code	66615-1099
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

## Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

name	Lelia Hall
------	------------

street & number      210 East Washington Avenue      telephone      785-567-4886

city or town	Lenora	state	Kansas	zip code	67645
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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503



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**Barbeau House**  
**Lenora, Kansas**

**Description**

The Barbeau House (c. 1902) is located at 210 East Washington Avenue in Lenora, Kansas. The two-and-one-half story frame Queen Anne house sits on a double-walled limestone-and-concrete foundation over a full basement. The house, clad in lap siding, features a turret and decorative overlays on the south and west gables and turret windows. A band of fish-scale shingles wraps around the house at the second floor level. The roof shingles are composition. The house has a southern facade orientation; one of the house's three porches extends the full length of this facade. A formal entrance with porch is on the west, the main entry is located on the south, and the back entry is on the east. The overall measurements of the house are seventy-eight feet from east to west and forty-six feet from north to south.

The turret graces the southwest corner of the house. The triangular spatial characteristic of the base extends from the main floor through the foundation and into the basement. At the second floor, the design changes to reflect a quadrilateral figure and is capped by an eighteen-foot, six-sided cone roof. Belt course brackets and horizontal and vertical overlays enhance the beauty of the long slender windows on the turret.

The Barbeau House's Queen Anne styling is clearly evident in its porches and ornamentation. The formal entrance is sheltered by a front-gabled porch. This porch features spindlework posts and railings; the gable is enhanced by ornamentation composed of an applied lattice of squares centered by small medallions. A projecting bay centers the house's southern facade; the full-length porch which stretches across the southern facade wraps around this bay. This porch, like that at the formal entrance, is distinguished by its spindlework posts and railings. On either side of the attic window, the projecting bay features decorative panels of an applied diamond-patterned lattice centered by small medallions. The gable ornamentation is further augmented by a sunburst at the gable's peak.

The house is roofed with a steeply-pitched hipped roof intersected by five dominant gables. Three red brick chimneys rise from the roof. The chimney on the west hipped roof exhibits dentilled corbelling and decorative panels made by recessing the bricks into the shape of a cross on each side of the chimney. The middle chimney is much shorter and extends upward from the center ridge. This chimney vents the fireplace in the parlor. The third chimney extends upward from the east hipped roof. It too displays decorative design and extends from the kitchen flu. All chimneys were repointed during renovation in 1990 to retain their current stability and original beauty.



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The first floor of the Barbeau House exhibits a free-flowing plan. A series of paneled pocket doors allows separation between the parlor and the sitting room, the parlor and the library, and the parlor and the dining room. The fireplace located in the northeast corner of the parlor is framed by a cross-grain ornate oak mantel and side pilasters. The fireplace insert is complimented by a glazed tile hearth that extends into the room. An oak pin-top volute style post stairway is the formal entrance to the second level. Inconsistency in the circumference of the posts supports family tradition that the posts were hand-turned on a treadle lathe. Three ornate newel posts support urn-shaped finials. The kitchen, located at the house's east end, adjoins a pantry and enclosed porch.

Each room on the second level is separate unto itself, radiating off of a narrow center hall. In the early 1940s, the rooms on the north side of the hallway were used as apartments for schoolteachers and railroad employees. An arch was constructed between the original servant's quarters and the adjoining room. The servant's quarters were transformed into a modest kitchen; this kitchen remains. On the south side of the hall, a door was cut between two rooms, and the southeast room became a kitchen. During the 1990 renovation this kitchen was returned to its original state as a bedroom. At the east end of the hallway, a landing provides access to the servant stairway that spirals south to north and back south into the kitchen on the first level; this landing was transformed into a bathroom with a stool, tub, and lavatory. The stairway to the attic is accessed from the east end of the hall.

Two exterior doors on the south provide access to the dining room and parlor from the extended porch, and the formal entry door on the west provides entrance to a short hallway that abuts the formal parlor. Each door exhibits detailed molding and carving, and etched glass panels. Screen/storm doors, handcrafted from solid wood, were added during the 1990 renovation and were designed to compliment the Queen Anne architecture of the house.

All the woodwork in the house is fir, and retains its original varnish. The woodwork in the first floor kitchen, bathroom, and pantry, and the second floor bathroom have painted woodwork. Molded casings are consistent door and window treatments. Molded top head block crowns are different in each main floor room and closet. The windows in the house are generally double-hung. Wooden panels extend from the window ledge to the baseboard in the formal entry, sitting room, and parlor.

An antique tin ceiling was installed in the dining room during the 1990 renovation, and a new copper ceiling enhances the first floor bathroom.

A single-story, gabled-roofed lap-siding building stands northeast of the house. Built to prove Joseph Barbeau's claim to a homestead northwest of town, this building was later moved to its present



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location to serve as a wash house. The building has a wooden-shingled roof which is in poor condition. Three small windows and the building's only door are located on the south side. Small doors at the roof peak on the west and east ends provide cross ventilation. Some plaster and lath remain on the walls and ceiling of the structure. The building rests on a four-inch thick concrete floor over a full basement. The basement is accessed by way of steps on the east end. Tree roots have pushed against the basement's concrete walls, causing them to break down in several places.

A double-A loop wire and cast-iron fence, added during the 1990 renovation and upgrade, frames the nine lots of the property on the south and west. The residence's sidewalk leads from the porches on the south and west to meet the public sidewalk. Four white concrete monuments have been added to mark the entrances to the property.

**Statement of Significance**

The Barbeau House (c. 1902) is historically significant under Criterion C as a rare example of the Queen Anne style in northwestern Kansas. Built by Joseph Barbeau, a prominent pioneer businessman in Lenora, Kansas, the house remained in the family for three generations.

Historical background and significance:

Joseph Barbeau (1846-1928) arrived in Lenora, Kansas, in February 1880. A Canadian by birth, Barbeau began the journey that would take him to northwestern Kansas at the age of eighteen, when he moved to Vermont to teach French to schoolchildren. After sojourns in Massachusetts and Connecticut, a friend convinced Barbeau that the west was the place to seek his fortune. After investigating St. Louis, St. Joseph, and Kansas City, Barbeau decided to settle in Lenora, where he purchased and began his operation of a general store. Because many of his new neighbors had difficulty with his French surname, he changed its spelling to "Barbo"; both spellings are engraved on his tombstone in the Lenora cemetery.

The Joseph Barbo Store, with a slogan advertising its stock of "Everything from the Cradle to the Grave", carried general merchandise, groceries, and furniture. Established three years before the arrival of the railroad, Barbeau's store drew customers from as far away as Eastern Colorado. Before long, the success of his store enabled him to open a second store in Selden, Kansas. Not a man to put all his eggs in one basket, Barbeau also raised wheat on 720 acres of land in the Lenora vicinity, and in 1891, he and Messrs. Larrick, Wiltout, and Reeder organized the Lenora Lumber Company. For a time, Joseph was the operator of Barbo's Cleaning Shop. The June 27, 1901, issue of the *Lenora News* related that



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Mr. Barbo has been one of Lenora's most enterprising merchants. In the first part of the 80's, in Western Kansas, it was a trying time for all, both merchants and farmers. As failure followed failure in crops, they commenced to leave, one by one, until now, Mr. Barbo is one of but few left in the this country who can tell you what hard times were. During this period and on down through later years, he has been the poor man's friend and helper; he has helped save many homes and has relieved many families in distress; and judging now from the patronage he receives from his many friends they greatly appreciate his efforts of the past.

Soon after his arrival in Lenora, his first wife, Minnie, and three of their four children died. Barbeau was remarried to Elizabeth (Lillie) Gatlin in 1889; together the couple had three sons and a daughter. For the first years of their marriage, Joseph and Lillie made their home in the rooms over Joseph's general store.

In 1884, Joseph purchased the lots on which his house would stand for \$1,600. In 1897, the basement of the future Barbeau House was dug, and a double-walled foundation of limestone, quarried from land Joseph owned south of Lenora, and concrete was laid. The foundation was allowed to settle for a year, and in 1899, construction began on the wood frame house. James Bridges of Lenora was the builder. Lumber for the building was purchased from the Lenora Lumber Company, and Barbeau held the materials used in the construction of his new home to exacting standards. He specified that there should be "as few knots as possible in the dimension lumber and absolutely no knots in the finish lumber." The large turret that graces the home's southwest corner required three years to design and construct. The October 24, 1901, issue of the *Lenora News* reported that the windows had been installed in the Barbeau House. By January 2, 1902, the carpets were being laid. On January 23, 1902, the *Lenora* newspaper reported that Joseph Barbeau had moved into his new home. This move also enabled him to expand his stock into the rooms in his store that his family had previously used as living space.

The Queen Anne style in which the Barbeau House was constructed reflected the Victorians' embrace of the technological advances made possible by the Industrial Revolution. Mass production made the intricate wood ornamentation associated with the style affordable for more than just the wealthy few. A nationwide network of railroads allowed those located far from forests and centers of production to have access to lumber and pre-cut architectural details. The new system of balloon-framing recently innovated in Chicago made possible the turrets, overhangs, and irregular floor plans that are hallmarks of the Queen Anne Style.

The Queen Anne style was introduced in England by Richard Norman Shaw; in England, the style was dominated by half-timbered and masonry residences which resembled the Elizabethan and



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Jacobean architecture that had inspired the style. In the United States, however, the spindlework and free classic subtypes, which were American inventions, were prevalent. The Queen Anne style was most popular in America from the 1880 to 1910. The spindlework subtype, of which the Barbeau House is an example, dominated the construction of Queen Anne residences throughout the style's period of greatest prominence, but particularly in the 1880s. The Barbeau House clearly illustrates this subtype in the spindlework friezes and supports that decorate the front and side porches and in the gable ornamentation that graces the home's front facade. Other features of the home that mark it as an example of the Queen Anne style are the incorporation of the turret, the corbelled brickwork that decorates the chimneys, the irregular footprint and multiple roof planes, and the belt course of fish-scale shingles between the first and second floors.

The Barbeau House was one of just a few homes in the Lenora vicinity constructed in the Queen Anne style on such a impressive scale. Tradition has it that at the time of the Barbeau House's construction, Joseph's business partner and prominent local banker Seywood Larrick was the owner of the largest house in town. Barbeau measured Larrick's house, and purposely had his own home constructed with its dimensions a foot larger, so that he could usurp the claim to owning Lenora's largest home. The Larrick House was later demolished, leaving the Barbeau House as the lone representative of Lenora's turn-of-the-century prosperity.

A second structure on the Barbeau property is a single story wash house. According to Marie Barbeau's daughter, the building was originally constructed as a two room house on a homestead owned by Joseph Barbeau. Marie Barbeau, Joseph's only surviving daughter from his first marriage, lived in the little house until the land was proven up, and then Marie returned home and the house was moved to Lenora. This building has not been conclusively dated, and is in poor condition.

Joseph and Lillie Barbeau lived in the Barbeau House from the time of its completion until 1926, when Joseph retired and the couple began to spend winters in California with Joseph's daughter Marie. In 1928, the Barbeaus' son Virgil and his wife Lela moved into the house to help care for the aging couple. Joseph died in California on December 11, 1928. At the time of his death, the Lenora newspaper observed that

There was probably not another man so widely known nor universally liked in all of western Kansas. Mr. Barbo came to Lenora in 1880 when the country was in its infancy. He established himself in the mercantile business and became known far and wide as 'Joseph Barbo, the merchant of Lenora.' In this capacity, Mr. Barbo was the father of this territory, for he fed and clothed it during its infancy and youth, many times with very



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little expectation of recompense...Mr. Barbo was known and loved throughout a vast territory for his keen wit and humor.

Virgil and Lela Barbo remained in the house until their respective deaths in 1956 and 1974. The home was owned by a granddaughter, Beverly Nelson, and her husband Fred Nelson from 1978 to 1986. In 1986, the house passed out of the Barbeau family, and was purchased by Edward T. Phelan. In 1988, the First Security Bank and Trust assumed ownership of the house. Fred Nelson bought the house for a second time at auction; the house remained vacant for two years. In February 1990, the Barbeau House was purchased by current owner Lelia M. Hall and her husband Brad, who together restored the house. In the summer of 1991, the Halls opened the house as the Barbeau House Bed and Breakfast, which Mrs. Hall continues to operate.

After one hundred years, the Barbeau House remains relatively unchanged. Between 1902 and 1910, the front porch was extended the full length of the house's south side. Five wooden steps with rails and posts were added to provide access from the dining room and parlor doors to the sidewalk leading to the public sidewalk. These wooden steps were replaced with concrete in 1996; the steps leading to the formal entry were likewise replaced with concrete in 1994. In 1942, Virgil and Lela Barbo opened walls between two rooms on the south and two rooms on the north of the second level to accommodate apartments, and transformed two of the four rooms into kitchen facilities. These apartments were rented to local teachers and railroad workers. The south kitchen was removed in 1991 and the space was returned to its original use as a bedroom. The north kitchen remains as it was designed in 1942. "Eloise" fretwork spandrels were added in the arch between the two rooms on the north to enhance the second level sitting room for bed and breakfast guests.

Built by a man who played a vital role in sustaining the Lenora community in its early years, the Barbeau House remains as a rare representative of the Queen Anne style in northwestern Kansas.

**Bibliography**

Dieterich, Virgil C., ed. *A Story of Lenora, Kansas*. 1974.

Hall, Lelia. Draft nomination.

"Joseph Barbo Leaves Us." *Lenora News*, 19 December 1928.

Lathrop, Frances Barbo. "Joseph (Barbeau) Barbo (1846-1929)."



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*Lenora News*, 27 June 1901; 10 October 1901; 24 October 1910; 2 January 1902; 23 January 1902; 20 February 1902.

Lockard, F.M. *History of Norton County*. 1892.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property is located on Lots 7 through 15 on Washington Street in Block C of the Lansing Addition of the City of Lenora. The property is bounded on the south by Washington Street, on the west by Fulton Street, on the north by an alley, and on the east by an adjacent property line.

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property contains all land historically associated with it.

**Photographs**

The following information is common to all photographs:

1. Barbeau House
2. Lenora, Norton County, Kansas
3. Melissa Fisher Isaacs, photographer
4. 16 December 2003
5. Original negatives located at the Kansas State Historical Society

The following information is specific to individual photographs:

6. View of south-facing facade
7. #1

6. View of west-facing facade
7. #2

6. View of north-facing facade
7. #3

6. View of east-facing facade

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7. #4

6. View of roofline and chimneys, camera facing southeast

7. #5

6. View of turret, camera facing east

7. #6

6. View of porch, camera facing west

7. #7

6. Detail of formal entrance, camera facing east

7. #8

6. Detail of south-facing facade

7. #9

6. View of parlor, camera facing northeast

7. #10

6. View of dining room, camera facing southwest

7. #11

6. View of second-floor landing

7. #12

6. View of south-facing facade of wash house

7. #13

6. View of west-facing facade of wash house

7. #14

6. View of north-facing facade of wash house

7. #15

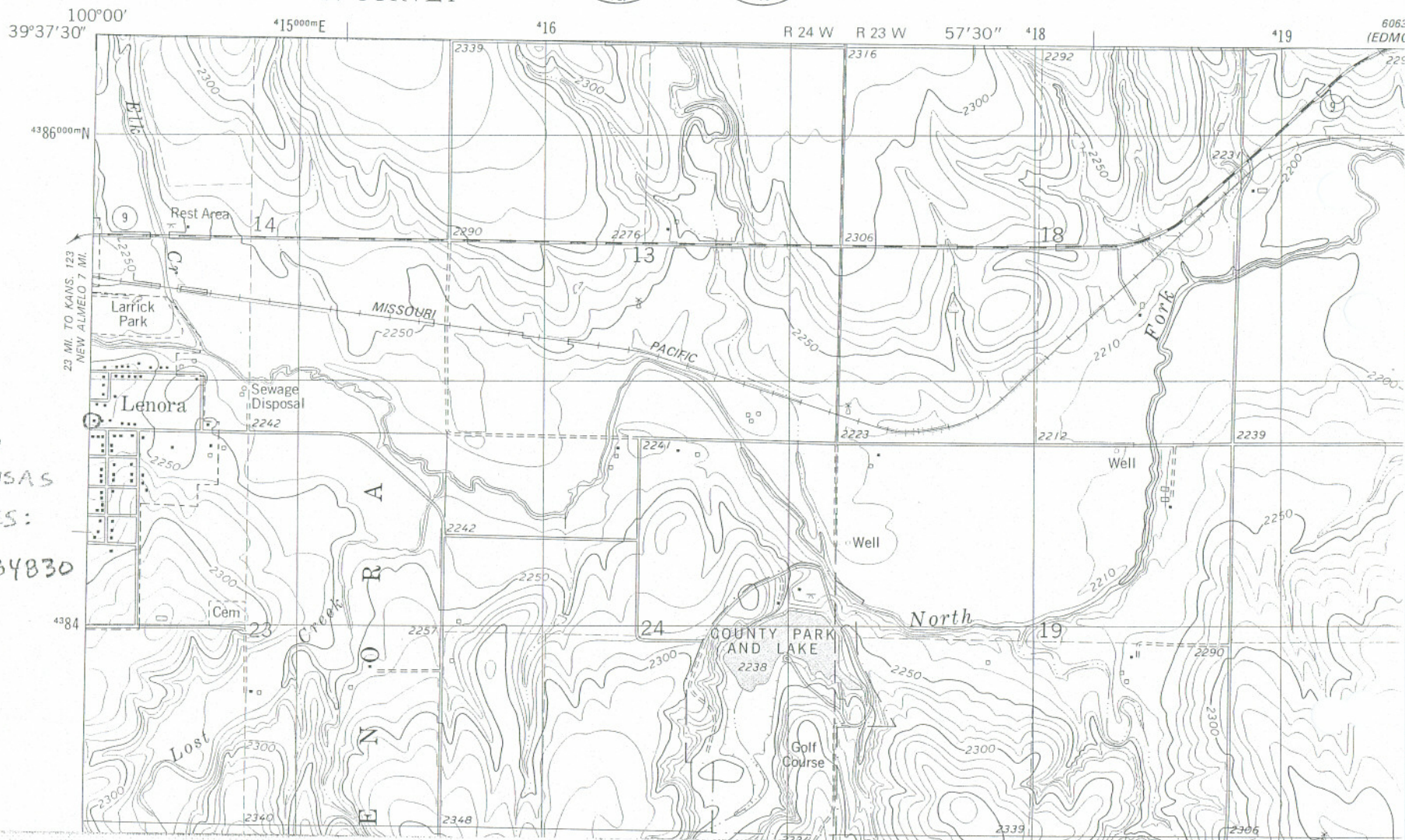
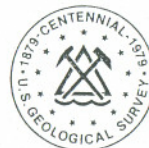
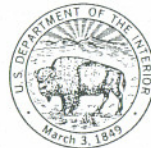
6. View of east-facing facade of wash house

7. #16



5962 II NE  
(CLAYTON NE)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



BARBEAU HOUSE  
LENORA, NORTON  
COUNTY, KANSAS  
UTM REFERENCES:

14/414170/4384830